10360 bb 49
1-8
K

AN

AUTHENTIC ACCOUNT

OF

OLD AND NEW SARUM,

THE

CATHEDRAL,

AND OTHER PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

TOGETHER WITH

A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF STONEHENGE,

And authentic and intereſting Particulars

OF

The Seats of the Nobility and Gentry in the Environs of Saliſbury.

Salisbury:

PRINTED FOR D. BOYTER.

1795.

BRITISH MUSEUM

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE utility of a work which ſhall at once unite the moſt intereſting authentic intelligence of the CATHEDRAL of SALISBURY, with an account of the Curioſities and Antiquities of places within its vicinity, muſt be obvious at firſt view. No one can be a ſtranger to the value and importance of ſuch kind of information; and few will deprive themſelves of thoſe ſources of knowledge, which it is the object of ſuch a work as the preſent to afford.

BESIDES the uſual authorities that are neceſſary in ſubjects of this nature, no labour or expence has been ſpared to obtain ſuch additional and valuable communicaations as are more peculiarly adapted to the improvement of ſuch a work. The obſervations that are every where interſperſed, muſt alſo render it of the higheſt reſpectability in point of accuracy, and enſure its favourable reception from the native and the citizen, as well as the traveller and the ſtranger.

BOYTER's SALISBURY GUIDE;

OR,

AN AUTHENTIC ACCOUNT

OF

OLD AND NEW SARUM,

THE CATHEDRAL, &c.

CHAP. I.

Of the Origin and Progreſs of the CATHEDRAL *of* NEW SARUM, *or* SALISBURY, *with ſome Account of the City of* OLD SARUM.

IT is agreed on all hands, that the city of New Sarum had its firſt origin and commencement from its neighbouring city of Old Sarum. On this account it is neceſſary to trace the foundation and eſtabliſhment of the ancient city, in order to deſcribe the occaſion and advancement of the latter. Old Sarum appears to have been a place of conſiderable importance as early as the time of king Edgar, who cauſed a great council of the nation to be convened here in the year 960, more than 100 years before

 the

the eſtabliſhment of the Norman conqueror in this kingdom. Indeed there are authorities of its greatneſs more than 400 years preceding that period; for it was a place which required a ſucceſsful battle of the Saxons as early as in the year 553, when Henric won it from the Britons. Here the Weſt Saxon kings reſided, till the heptarchy was ſwallowed up in one entire monarchy under king Egbert. It was afterwards ſacked and deſtroyed in 1003, by Sweyn, king of Denmark, the father of Canute the great, and the ſucceſſor of Harold; but it ſoon appears to have recovered its former ſplendor.

In the year 1075, in a national ſynod of Lanfranc, archbiſhop of Canterbury, held in London, it was ordered by a canon, that all the ſees of the biſhops throughout the realm ſhould be tranſlated to places and towns of note from ſuch places and villages as were of obſcure and inferior rank. The biſhopric of Sarum was then firſt eſtabliſhed, having before been ſettled at Sherborne for the five weſtern counties, excluſive of Hants, about the year 705. Out of this three others were taken in 905, for the three counties of Somerſet, Devon, and Cornwall; ſoon after which period a fourth was appointed for Wilts, whoſe biſhop reſided ſometimes at Sunning, near Reading, and at other times at Ramſbury and Wilton.

The laſt biſhop of Wilton, and the firſt of Old Sarum, was called Herman; who, in conſequence of the canon, removed his ſee to this city, having previouſly

viouſly obtained the king's promiſe and conſequent order for uniting Sherborne and Wilton. He had before requeſted to tranſlate his cathedral from Wilton to Malmſbury, but had been oppoſed by the abbot and monks, who interceded with earl Godwin to ſtop that meaſure in the king's councils. Why he did not now give the preference to that town, is not certainly known, nor material to enquire; it is a proof of the importance of Old Sarum at this period that he was authorized to tranſlate it thither, in conſequence of that decree of the council. Old Sarum received him and ſix others in ſucceſſion for its ſuperior in eccleſiaſtical concerns; the laſt of whom, Richard Poore, on account of the frequent diſſenſions with the lords of Old Sarum, which had been obtruded upon them by king Stephen, and maintained by his ſucceſſors, was very active and zealous to obtain leave from the pope to erect a chapel or cathedral elſewhere. A bull was procured from the pope in 1219 for the tranſlation of the church, under a pretence that there was a want of water in the preſent ſituation; though the real cauſe was, that the biſhop, with the dean and clergy, could not brook the controul of the nobles who were ſet over them.

They firſt began by erecting a wooden chapel at New Sarum, in honour of the bleſſed Virgin. This was on the Monday after Eaſter in 1219, and in the feaſt of the Trinity in the ſame year, the ſame biſhop, ſo greatly had the work been advanced, ce-

lebrated divine ſervice in it, and conſecrated a cemetery or burial place. On the 28th of April, 1220, the foundation of the new church was laid; and ſuch was the zeal and aſſiduity with which the building was conducted, that divine ſervice was performed in it on the day of ſaint Michael, 1225. William Longſpee, earl of Sarum, after his return from Gaſcoigne, was honourably interred in this new church of ſaint Mary, on the 8th of March following; and in 1226, in the feaſt of Trinity, the bodies of three biſhops of Old Sarum which had been buried there, Oſmund, Roger, and Joceline, the immediate ſucceſſors of Herman, were tranſlated to the new fabric. The tranſlation of the church was alſo ratified by a charter of king Henry the third, on the 30th of January, 1226. All theſe circumſtances combining, operated as a death-blow to the city of Old Sarum; for the people, who were anxious to reſide near the clergy, for the convenience of divine worſhip, ſpeedily removed thither with their effects.

THE cathedral is ſaid to have coſt forty thouſand marks, a ſum, however high the value of money might then be, apparently very inadequate to the completion of ſuch a fabric.

ANOTHER cauſe which led to the decay of Old Sarum, and involved Wilton in the ſame fate, was the erection of Harnham bridge, by which the great weſtern road was diverted from its ancient track, and an immediate communication formed between the new city and the country to the ſouth-weſt and ſouth.

This

This was effected by virtue of a charter from king Henry the third to the biſhop of New Sarum and his ſucceſſors, who were thereby empowered "for the improvement of the city, to change and remove the roads and bridges leading to it, and to make them moſt convenient to themſelves."

THE object of the miſſion to Rome having been effectually obtained, the means of profiting by the indulgence granted, and of putting in execution the powers veſted in the biſhop and clergy of the cathedral of Sarum, were the next thing to be deliberated upon. The expence was a very important conſideration; and the mode of defraying it became the immediate ſubject of their councils.

THE zeal of thoſe times was highly inſtrumental in effecting ſpeedily ſo deſirable a meaſure. To encourage the ſpirit of liberality, a very equitable and generous plan was alſo adopted; for it was decreed, that the heirs of the firſt builders, as well canons as vicars, ſhould be entitled to two parts of the value of whatever they ſhould cauſe to be built, the third part only being to be abſorbed or ſunk on account of the lands; and that the collation and appointment of the houſes, after the firſt ſale of the vacant houſes, were to be left to the biſhop. It was alſo determined that the family of the deceaſed perſon who firſt built, or the perſon to whom the ſaid two parts were aſſigned or bequeathed by the deceaſed, ſhould remain in poſſeſſion of the houſes till ſatisfaction was made of the price ſo determined.

THESE meaſures muſt obviouſly have a great influence in forwarding the building, and producing large contributions for that purpoſe, as well as in erecting accommodations for the biſhop and the various members of the chapter. Biſhop Poore was tranſlated from hence about two years after the removal of the bodies of the three biſhops to the new cathedral. His ſucceſſor, biſhop Bingham, applied himſelf greatly to the work of the building for near twenty years; but William of York could not ſee it completed, though he was ſettled in this ſee near ten years. His ſucceſſor, biſhop Bridport, had the ſatisfaction to put the finiſhing hand, in about a year and a half more, and conſecrated it on the 30th of September, 1258. King Henry the third, who reſided occaſionally at Clarendon, was preſent on this occaſion, with the archbiſhop of Canterbury, and a great number of the nobility and other prelates. The account of the expenditure was then delivered to the king, amounting in the whole, as we have ſtated, to forty thouſand marks, or 26,666l. 13s. 4d.

BUT this cathedral had a farther conſecration at the diſtance of twenty-two years after, on the feaſt of ſaint Michael, in 1280, by Boniface, archbiſhop of Canterbury. Why this was done, we have no account tranſmitted to us; neither do we meet with the leaſt mention of any tower or ſpire as at that time belonging to the cathedral. The diſtance of time between the dedications affords, however, no improbable ground of belief, that the church was at

firſt

firſt dedicated and uſed without them; and that, upon the completion of the hazardous undertaking of raiſing theſe upon the building, it might again be dedicated. It does not appear, which adds weight to this opinion, that the firſt architect had formed any deſign of raiſing a tower, or erecting a ſpire on it; becauſe it ſeems, that where he intended laying any extraordinary weight, he conſtantly made ſufficient proviſion for receiving it, which cannot be ſaid in this particular inſtance. The ſucceeding architect who undertook this addition was therefore obliged to have recourſe to art to ſupply this want of ſolidity and firmneſs. All perſons of judgment muſt be convinced, that the conſtruction of the tower and ſpire, though they contribute ſo greatly to the grandeur and dignity of the whole, is by no means equal to that of the body of the building; for the various braces of ſtone, &c. detract from the delicate appearance, and could certainly never have been deſigned by the firſt architect, whereas the principal building is a piece of architecture of ſuch ſingular and tranſcendent beauty as is not to be equalled by any ſtructure of its bulk and age.

CHAP. II.

The ancient and preſent State of the City of OLD SARUM, *from the moſt authentic Hiſtorians, with Obſervations on the ſame.*

WE have noted that biſhop Herman, after being reſiſted in the attempt to remove his ſee from Wilton

to Malmſbury, by virtue of the canon of Lanfranc, ſettled himſelf at Old Sarum. Having here laid the foundation of a cathedral, though Mr. Price concludes that he had only formed the deſign of ſuch an erection, and did not actually begin the fabric, he died in about two years after, in 1078; and it was left to his ſucceſſor, biſhop Oſmund, to complete what he had begun. His principal care was to collect from every part the moſt learned clergy, at a time when ignorance and ſuperſtition prevailed to a very high pitch. He procured alſo a variety of books, and was remarkable for his learning and aſſiduity; tranſcribing many volumes with his own hand, and afterwards binding and illuminating them. We are informed that he dedicated his church in the year 1092, aſſiſted by the biſhops of Wincheſter and Bath; and that the next day, as if it had been an omen of its ſhort duration, the preſumptive cauſe of all adverſe accidents in thoſe times, the ſteeple was deſtroyed by lightning. He was a great favourite with king William, with whom he had come from Normandy, and liberally partook of his bounty; and by the king's extraordinary generoſity and authority, he cauſed a chapter to be added to the dean of the two cathedral churches of Sunning and Sherborne, now removed hither, and appointed a dean of the king's free chapel within the caſtle of Old Sarum. Beſides the chapter, he added three dignitaries, four archdeaconries, &c. ſo that he may be properly ſaid to have been the founder of the ancient cathedral of the old city. From hence it appears, that the origi-

nal

nal church was not only founded upon the king's ſoil, and within the precincts of the king's caſtle, but within the caſtle itſelf, ſtrictly and properly ſo called. The biſhops, therefore, could only be conſidered as the king's tenants, or at moſt as governors of a garriſoned town and caſtle; even before they were controuled by the appointment of civil or military governors over them, under the denomination of earls of Saliſbury. The complaints, which occaſioned the application of biſhop Poore to his holineſs the pope of Rome, for permiſſion to erect a new cathedral, are therefore very naturally accounted for from theſe conſiderations.

It is of importance to produce the accounts given of this ancient city by early and modern hiſtorians and antiquarians. William of Malmſbury aſſerts, that biſhop Roger, who ſucceeded Oſmund, raiſed Old Sarum to an enviable degree of ſtrength and ſplendour; that the buildings were ſpacious, their appearance beautiful, and their expence very great; that he particularly adorned the church, and added ſo many decorations to it that it yielded to none, but excelled moſt religious ſtructures in England. But theſe were miſinterpreted by king Stephen, though he had been zealous in bringing him to the poſſeſſion of the crown; and the biſhop was very cruelly treated by that ungrateful monarch.

Petrus Blesensis, who was probably acquainted with the prevailing animoſity between the civil and eccleſiaſtical governments of the old city, and was archdeacon of London, about the year 1160, ſeems

ſeems to have had a ſtrong preſentiment of what would follow at ſome ſucceeding period. It may be conſidered by ſome as prophetical; though we think that a perſon of common penetration could ſcarcely fail to diſcover the conſequence of ſuch a galling jealouſy as at that time exiſted. His words are theſe, "Old Sarum is a place expoſed to the wind, barren, dry, and ſolitary; a tower is there, as in Siloam, by which the inhabitants have for a long time been enſlaved. The church of Sarum is a captive on a hill; let us therefore in God's name go down into the level, where the vallies will yield plenty of corn, and the champain fields are of a rich ſoil." This actually happened about ſixty years after; the earl being neither willing to bear an equal nor the biſhop a rival in power, frequent contentions enſued, which ended at length in a final ſeparation, and involved in it the decay and ruin of the old city, as we have noted already.

BUT the honours attached to its government did not wholly ceaſe at once. We find, as it is recorded in Dugdale's Baronage, that the caſtle of Old Sarum was given to one of the lord Stourtons, who was at that time treaſurer of the houſehold to king Henry the ſixth, ſo late as the year 1447. It was then become ſo ruinous as to yield no benefit to the king; and it muſt have been detached from the earldom of Saliſbury at that period, becauſe it was then granted in fee to John, lord Stourton, with its banks, ditches, walls, and gardens, to be held of the king and his ſucceſſors by fealty, at a rent of 3s. 4d. per annum.

Whether

Whether it then ſent members to parliament, we cannot take upon us to aſſert; or, if it did, we confeſs ourſelves equally ignorant as to the perſons by whom they were choſen. By the attainder of Charles, lord Stourton, who was executed for the murder of Mr. Hartgill and his ſon, at his own table, it once more came into the hands of the crown. It was afterwards, however, in the poſſeſſion of ſir Robert Cecil, the ſecond ſon of lord Burleigh, in the time of king James the firſt, who was then created earl of Saliſbury. His deſcendant, James Cecil, earl of Saliſbury, ſold the manor of Old Sarum, with its rights, to governor Pitt for 1500l. and it is peculiarly worthy of notice, that the late earl of Chatham, who was nephew to the governor, was born here, at the manor-houſe, at a ſhort diſtance from the church, in the village of Stratford. It is now the property of lord Camelford, the deſcendant of the governor who firſt purchaſed it, more than an hundred years ago.

We are particularly happy in being enabled to lay before our readers, the account of the cruelty, attainder, and execution of the lord Stourton, for the murder above mentioned, in the time of queen Mary, on the authority of a manuſcript tranſmitted to us expreſsly for this work, and aſſured to us to be a faithful tranſcript of the original manuſcript.

"On the 28th of January, 1556, was the lord Stourton had to the Tower, for the death of two gentlemen, father and ſon, baſely by him and his men murdered.

"On

"On the 26th of February the lord Stourton was arraigned at Weſtminſter Hall, before the judges and divers of the council, as the lord chief juſtice Brookes, lord ſteward, lord treaſurer, and divers other lords and knights. It was long ere he would anſwer to the charge laid againſt him, till the lord chief juſtice ſtood and declared, that if he would not anſwer, that he was to be preſſed to death by the laws of the land; after which he made his anſwer, and was caſt by his own words, and condemned to be hanged, together with his four men.

"On the 2d of March the lord Stourton rode from the Tower, with ſir Robert Oxenbridge, the lieutenant, and on the 6th he was executed in the Market-place at Saliſbury, and the men in the country near the place where the murder was done. In the latter end of this year," continues our account, "in the month of March, was Charles, lord Stourton, hanged at Saliſbury, and four of his ſervants at other places, for the barbarous murder of Mr. Hartgill and his ſon, two gentlemen of Kilmington, in Somerſetſhire. They had been, out of a ſhew of kindneſs and making an end of a long quarrel, invited to meet the lord Stourton, and ſo were ſet upon by a great many of his ſervants, bound, knocked on the head, their throats cut, and buried fifteen feet deep in his houſe."

Of the ſtate of Old Sarum in the time of Henry the eighth, the learned antiquarian Leland, in the year 1540, left the following account on record. "The cite of Old Sareſbyri ſtanding on a hill is

diſtant

diſtant from the New a mile by north-weſt and is in cumpace half a mile and mo. This thing hath been auncient and exceeding ſtrong: but ſyns the building of New Sareſbyri it went totally to ruine. Sum think that lak of water cauſed the inhabitants to relinquiſch the place; yet wer ther manny welles of ſwete water. Sum ſay, that after that in tyme of civile warres, that caſtelles and waullid townes were kept, that the caſtellanes of Old Sareſbyri and the chanons cou'd not agree, inſomuch, that the caſtellanes upon a time prohibited them cumming home from proceſſion and rogation to reentre the town. Whereupon the biſhop and they conſulting together at the laſt began a church on their own proper ſoyle; and then the people reſortid ſtrait to New Sareſbyri and buildid thir: and then in continuance wer a great number of the houſes of Old Sareſbyri pullid down, and ſet up at New Sareſbyri. Oſmund erle of Dorcheſtre, and after biſhop of Sareſbyri, erected his cathedrale chirch ther in the weſte part of the toun: an alſo his palace, whereof now no token is but only a chapelle of our Lady, yet ſtonding and mainteynid. Ther was a paroch church of the Holy Rode beſide in Old Sareſbyri; and an other over the eſte gate, wherof yet ſome tokens remayne. I do not perceyve that ther wer any more gates in Old Sareſbyri then to, one by the eſte and another by weſt. Without ech of theſe gates is a chapelle ſtandinge. The ryver is a good quarter of a mile from Old Sareſbyri, and more, even where it is nereſt. Ther hath been houſes in tyme

of

of mynd inhabited in the eſte ſuburbe of Old Sareſbyri: but now ther is not one houſe, nither within Old Sareſbyri or withoute inhabited. Ther was a right fair and ſtrong caſtelle within Old Sareſbyri, longging to the erles of Sareſbyri, eſpecially the Longſpees. I reede that one Gualterus was the firſt erle after the conqueſt of it. Much notable ruinus building of this caſtelle yet ther remaynith. The diche that environed the old town was a very deep and ſtrong thing."

On this account of Leland, and the obſervations which have preceded it, we have only to note, that the religious foundations of Old Sarum were of very great antiquity. The reaſon is obvious from the great confuſions which prevailed in the land during the Saxon and Daniſh invaſions; for theſe naturally preſſed the clergy to ſeek for places of defence to protect them from the ravages and depredations that were committed by theſe adventurers. Nothing but the moſt urgent neceſſity could certainly have induced them to erect ſaint Mary's Holy Rood, the cathedral, and another church within ſo narrow a compaſs as 2000 feet.

The account given by William Lambarde, another eminent antiquarian in the reign of queen Elizabeth, is alſo worthy of notice. He tells us, that "this place was not of great fame in our chronicles before the conqueſt, but ſeameth to have begonne by the byſhop's ſee and the caſtle; I read that Cenric, one of the firſt founders of the Weſt-Saxon kingdom, encrochd upon the Brytons, as farre as Saliſbyrie;

byrie; and then gave theim a batteil theare alſo, in which he overthrew theim, and by that means dilated his bounds further. In the time of William the conquerour, when, by decree of the pope, ſees of byſhops in Ingland, weare tranſlated from villages to cyties and borough townes, Herman, the byſhop of Shyrburne, that was before gone over ſea for anger that he might not remove to Malmeſbury, came home agayne, and ſet him down at Saliſbyrie, beginninge within the old caſtle there a new church, which Oſmund his ſucceſſor accompliſſed. This Oſmund was before a man of warre and made by king William the conquerour earle of Dorſet; he gatherd together the Portuſſe in Latine, conteyninge common ſervice in the churche, which order was afterward embraced throughout the realme, and called *Uſus Sarum*; and therefore it is leſs marveil if Polydor and ſuch other gyve him the hole praiſe of this new church of Saliſbyrie. Wel; in the reigne of king Henry the firſt the order of the canons of Saliſbyrie began, which is the laſt thing that I read of Old Sarum: for after the death of king Henry the ſecond Richard Power then byſhop of Saliſbyrie, and afterward of Durham, muche troubled for want of water, and ſomwhat miſliking to be in daunger of the lorde of the caſtle, as in thoſe dayes the clergymen wou'd beare no equalls, much leſs abide their betters, determin'd to remove his choire into the valley, almoſt a myle from the caſtle, and after licence obteyned, began to buyld upon the metinge of the two waters Avon and Willy: but becauſe

he

he was tranſlated before he had finiſhed it, Robert Bingham his ſucceſſor ſucceeded him in the labour, and performed the worke in the tyme of king Henry the third, who laying with his own handes the firſt ſtone of the churche, made New Saliſbury a cyte, endowed it with many franchiſes, and gave it to the byſhop and his ſucceſſors, which to this day remayne owners of it."

DOCTOR STUKELEY, as the laſt antiquarian writer on this ſubject, in his Itinera Curioſa, made the following remarks on the ſituation of Old Sarum ſo late as the year 1722. He tells us, that "this city (Sorbiodunum or Old Sarum) is perfectly round, and formed upon one of the moſt elegant deſigns one can imagine, probably a fortreſs of the old Britons. The proſpect of this place is at preſent very auguſt, and would have afforded us a moſt noble ſight when in perfection; ſuch a one will not be difficult to conceive when we have deſcribed it. It fills up the ſummit of an high and ſteep hill, which originally aroſe equally on all ſides to an apex. The whole work is 1600 feet diameter, included in a ditch of prodigious depth; 'tis ſo contrived, that in effect it has two ramparts, the inner and the outer, the ditch between. Upon the inner, which is much the higher, ſtood a ſtrong wall of twelve foot thick, their uſual ſtandard, which afforded a parapet at the top for the defendants, with battlements quite round. Upon ſtill higher ground, is another deep circular ditch of 500 foot diameter, this is the caſtle or citadel. Upon the inner rampire of this was likewiſe another wall,

I ſuppoſe

I ſuppoſe of like thickneſs, ſo that between the inner ditch and the outer wall all around was the city. This is divided into equal parts by a meridian line. Both the banks are ſtill left, one to the ſouth, the other to the north; and theſe had walls upon them too. The traces of all the walls are ſtill manifeſt, and ſome parts of them left. In the middle of each half towards the eaſt and weſt is a gate, with each a lunette before it, deeply ditched, and two oblique entries; that to the eaſt is ſquare, to the weſt round. The hollow where the wall ſtood is viſible quite round, though the materials are well nigh carried away to New Sarum. In every quarter were two towers, the foundations plainly appearing. Then with thoſe that were upon the cardinal points, the gates and the meridian rampart, as it muſt neceſſarily be underſtood, there were twelve in the whole circumference; ſo that ſuppoſing it about 5000 feet in circumference, there was a tower at every 400. Hence we may imagine the nature of the city was thus; a circular ſtreet went round in the middle between the inner and outer fortifications concentric to the whole work, and that croſs ſtreets like radii fronted each tower; then there were twenty-four iſlets of buildings, for houſes, temples, or the like. Now ſuch was the deſign of this place, that if one half was taken by an enemy, the other would ſtill be defenſible; and at laſt they might retire into the caſtle. The city is now ploughed over and not one houſe left. In the angle to the north-weſt ſtood the cathedral and epiſcopal palace; the foundations are

at preſent ſo conſpicuous, that I could eaſily mark out the ground plot of it. Near it is a large piece of wall left, made of hewn ſtone with holes quite through at equal places.

Of its importance in the times of the Romans, this deſcription would abundantly convince any perſon of tolerable diſcernment. Compared with an actual view of its form, the moſt incredulous muſt be fully ſatisfied. We need only ſuppoſe, that the citadel and upper city, upon the very ſummit of this eminence, were ſtill ſtanding, and ſurrounded, as that was, by a ſtrong wall of more than half a mile in circuit; that the lower city under this was environed with a prodigious rampart and deep ditch; and that below all there was a very fair and large ſuburb, with a river on the weſt ſide at a ſmall diſtance from the foot of it; and that if they were at any time cut off from a communication with the water, the inhabitants and the garriſon could be ſupplied with ſoft water from the wells within their own fortifications, though at a great depth and with much labour;—and it is ſcarce poſſible to imagine how a place could be made ſtronger, before the uſe of artillery was known or invented, and the conſequent improvements in the art of fortification for reſiſting their effects.

According to the plans which have been laid down of this ancient city, there were two wells in the eaſt part of the city and two in the weſt, beſides another in the caſtle. The laſt of theſe is laid down on the ſouth ſide upon the meridian line juſt within the

the wall, and upon a line with the two croſs banks on that line which divided the two parts of the city. The other four are juſt without the circular or concentric ſtreets, the particular ſituations of which it might be neceſſary to deſcribe; but it ſhall ſuffice to ſay, that one of them is contiguous to the eaſtermoſt of the two croſs banks on the north ſide, at about one quarter of the diſtance from the northern meridian line towards the eaſt gate, and not far from it is the ſcite of one of the two towers, in the north-eaſt quarter upon the ramparts.

We have been thus particular in pointing out the ſituation of this tower, to introduce the diſcovery lately made of a ſubterraneous paſſage in that part of the city. The following deſcription was given in the public prints of the nature of this cavity, and the purpoſes for which it was ſuppoſed to have been formed. For the authenticity of the fact, we pledge ourſelves to the public; who may depend on its being literally and ſtrictly true. We ſhall therefore tranſcribe it *verbatim*, and ſubmit to our readers how far, after what has been mentioned, the conjectures appear rational and well-founded.

In a public print of February 16th, 1795, from whence it has been copied into moſt of the other public prints, is the following paragraph. "A ſubterraneous paſſage has lately been diſcovered within the limits of the ancient city of Old Sarum. The late ſevere froſts, and ſudden inundations which ſucceeded, by preſſing more ſtrongly than uſual on the ſlight ſurface that covered the mouth of the entrance,

have opened a paſſage under the ramparts in the north-eaſt quarter, near the ſuppoſed ſcite of one of the ancient towers.—By a door-way of near four feet in width, a part of the ſquare ſtone columns of which remains in a perfect ſtate, a ſpacious covered way is entered, of about ſeven feet in breadth, and from eight to ten feet, or more, in height, with a circular or Saxon roof, evidently artificial. It has been found to deſcend in an angle, nearly parallel to the glacis of the ſurrounding ditch, to the diſtance of 114 feet; but the looſe chalk from above, which has rolled down and choaked up the bottom, at preſent prevents any farther progreſs. We think, however, that it cannot extend much farther, and that it muſt have been deſigned as a paſſage to the foſs and outworks; affording not only an eaſy and convenient communication with the country, but an effectual retreat into the city from the purſuit of a ſuperior enemy, after obtaining poſſeſſion of thoſe outworks. On meaſuring the ſame diſtance of 114 feet from the foſs directly up the glacis, it is found to have a ſtriking correſpondence; which affords ſtrong grounds for conjecture that it terminated there by a paſſage outwards."

WHETHER any meaſures may in future be taken by the noble proprietor of the ſoil, lord Camelford, or any other perſon who may be empowered to proceed in making any farther diſcoveries, we are not at liberty to conjecture. At preſent, we underſtand, the place has been cloſed up again, after being open for the inſpection of the curious only about a week, in which ſhort period we had the good fortune to ſee it,

it, and we can pledge ourſelves for the authenticity of the above account of it. Perhaps it might be a meaſure of prudence, to ſecure it in that ſeaſon from the effects of the external atmoſphere, which might have had diſagreeable effects on the roof, part of which appears already to have broken down; but we may be ſuffered to hazard a hope, that when the ſummer ſeaſon advances, it may be again opened, and that no trivial or ſlight conſiderations will operate to deprive the public, and eſpecially the curious and antiquarian traveller or ſtranger, of the gratification which ſuch a diſcovery or viſit always excites in his mind. We are happy to find, at the time of this ſheet going to preſs, that this paſſage has been again opened, by order of lady Camelford.

THE place may be known by a hollow, near a ſmall buſh, juſt within the ramparts, as we have already deſcribed it. There is a ſimilar appearance of the ground towards the ſouth from the eaſt gate, but not more than two-thirds of the diſtance towards the ſouth meridian line. In ſome of the projected plans of the old city, this is called an ice houſe; but we are more ſtrongly inclined to the opinion of its being a ſimilar paſſage, for the ſame purpoſes as the other to the north-eaſt. What is uſually called the friars' ſteps, is ſtill nearer to the meridian line on the ſouth; but whether there was any ſmall paſſage here of a ſimilar nature, a poſtern gate, or what other mode of admiſſion, admitting the idea to be well-founded, we muſt not take upon us to affirm. In the weſt part of this city, we need only add, that

the cathedral is ſuppoſed to have been ſituated a little to the right hand, or on the north ſide of the path to the weſt gate, at a ſmall diſtance within the ramparts.

CHAP. III.

Of the CATHEDRAL CHURCH *of* NEW SARUM.

WE have already noted, that biſhop Poore cauſed divine ſervice to be performed in his cathedral of New Sarum in the year 1225; as ſoon as the fabric was ſufficiently advanced to render it practicable. The dean was commanded to cite all the canons, and require them to aſſemble at the new church on the feaſt of ſaint Michael then next following; on the vigil of which the biſhop came to the cathedral, and there conſecrated three altars, of which one was in the eaſt part, in honour of the holy Trinity and all the ſaints; another was in the north part of the church, which was dedicated to ſaint Peter; and the third was in the ſouth part and dedicated to ſaint Stephen and the other martyrs. There were preſent, together with the ſaid biſhop, Stephen, archbiſhop of Canterbury, and Harry, archbiſhop of Dublin. Several hours were ſpent in prayer in the new church, upon this occaſion; and theſe metropolitans afterwards accompanied the biſhop to his houſe or palace,

and

and were nobly entertained by him for a whole week. We have already ſaid that the bodies of the three biſhops of Old Sarum were brought from thence in 1226, which was in the year following; and, though out of chronological order, it may here be obſerved that about 230 years after, Oſmund had the poſthumous honour of being canonized.

THE deſcription of the cathedral, according to the account of ſir Chriſtopher Wren, who ſurveyed it in 1668 at the requeſt of biſhop Ward, is appoſite to our purpoſe. He tells us, that "the whole pile is large and magnificent, and may be juſtly accounted one of the beſt patterns of architecture in the age wherein it was built. The figure of it is a croſs, upon the interſection of which ſtands a tower, and a ſteeple of ſtone, as high from the foundation as the whole length of the nave, and is founded upon four pillars or arches of the interſection. Between the ſteeple and the eaſt end is another croſſing of the nave, which on the weſt ſide only has no aiſles. The main body is ſupported on pillars, with aiſles annexed, and buttreſſes without the aiſles, from whence ariſe bows, or flying buttreſſes, to the walls of the nave; theſe are concealed within the timber roof of the aiſles. The roof is almoſt as ſharp as an equilateral triangle, made of ſmall timber, after the ancient manner, without principal rafters. The whole church is vaulted with chalk between arches and croſs ſpringers only, after the ancient manner, without orbs and tracery, except under the tower, where

the ſpringers divide, and repreſent a ſort of tracery. This appears to have been a later work, and done by ſome later hand than that of the firſt architect; and his judgment is juſtly to be commended for many things, beyond what we find in divers gothic fabrics of later date, which, though more elaborated with nice and ſmall works, want the natural beauty that ariſes from proportion of the firſt dimenſions. Here the breadth to the height of the nave, and both to the ſhape of the aiſles, bear good proportion; and the pillars and ſpaces between them are well ſuited to the height of the arches. The mouldings are decently mixed with large planes, without an affectation of filling every corner with ornaments, which, unleſs admirably good, glut the eye, as in muſic too much diviſion cloys the ear. The windows are not too great, nor yet is the light obſtructed with many mullions and tranſoms of tracery work, which was the depraved faſhion of the following age. Our artiſt knew better, that nothing could add beauty to light. He truſted in a ſtately and rich plainneſs, which his marble ſhafts gave to his work; for I cannot call them pillars, becauſe they are ſo long and ſlender, and generally bear nothing, but are only added for ornament to the outſide of the great pillars, and decently faſtened with braſs.

THESE pillars ſhew much greater than they are; for the ſhafts of marble which encompaſs them ſeem to fill out the pillar to a proportionate bulk. Some of theſe that are preſſed, break and ſplit; this is more eſpecially to be noted of thoſe under the ſteeple,

which,

which, being four hundred feet high, is borne by four pillars. Out of fear to over-burthen them, the inſide of the tower, for forty feet high above the nave, is made with a ſlender hollow work of pillars and arches; nor hath it any buttreſſes. The ſpire is but nine inches thick, though the height be above one hundred and fifty feet. This work of pillars and arches within the tower makes one believe, that the architect laid his firſt floor of timber forty feet higher than the vault beneath (which was ſince added) and ſo would have concluded without a ſpire."

We may now proceed to conſider the materials, with which this eminent ſtructure was originally built. The walls and buttreſſes are evidently compoſed of Chilmark ſtone, which is a village at the diſtance only of twelve miles, and very little inferior to the famous Portland ſtone. But though the outſide and inſide are of this ſtone, the middle parts are filled up with inferior materials, ſuch as had been uſed for laying the foundation. The pillars and ſhafts, which are conſtructed ſo as to be both uſeful and ornamental, are of Purbeck marble. It muſt be noted, however, that the pillars which are deſigned to ſupport the weight, lie in their natural order as they came from the quarry; but the ſhafts, which were only placed round the others for ornament, are in an inverted form, and hence it is that where they ſupport any weight at all, they are found to ſplit or cleave aſunder. To all perſons concerned in building with this ſtone, this is a matter of great importance;

and

and thoſe who have regard either for public utility or duration, will profit by the information.

We ſhall only add to what has been already ſaid of the ſtructure of the tower and ſpire, what is related in Dugdale's Baronage, where he ſays, "There is a patent of the firſt year of king Henry the ſixth in 1423, which recites, that the ſtone tower ſtanding in the middle of Saliſbury cathedral is become ruinous, and empowers the dean and chapter to appropriate 50l. annually for its repairs." From this he draws the following remarkable inference, which, though differing from the conjectures already given, we think right to lay before our readers. "This," ſays he, "was a very conſiderable ſum; and I think an inference may fairly be drawn, that the repair was made, and the tower rebuilt, with the addition of a ſpire. The higher and greater part of the preſent tower is evidently ingrafted on work of an older and ſimpler conſtruction. I ſuppoſe this new tower and ſpire to have been finiſhed not later than the year 1429; for in that year ſir Walter Hungerford had licence from the king to appropriate the great tythes of Cricklade and the reverſion of the manor of Cricklade, called Abingdon's Court, to the dean and chapter of Saliſbury cathedral, to maintain the tall ſpire ſteeple of that fabric in repair." But notwithſtanding the proviſion which was hereby made for its ſupport, we have been told that, ſoon after the fall of the ſpire of Wimborne in Dorſetſhire in the year 1610, a conſultation was held whether it was

not

not adviſable to take down the ſpire, which at that time was in a very ruinous ſtate. The reſult of this was, to preſerve the ſpire; and means were then and afterwards taken to ſtrengthen and ſecure both the tower and ſpire. This account, from the nature of the architecture, and compared with the cotemporary works in Wincheſter cathedral, we conſider as moſt entitled to credibility.

It has been aſſerted, in favour of what Dugdale has ſaid about the erection of the ſpire, that the architecture is entirely in that ſtyle of building which began to be in faſhion about the beginning of the fifteenth century. The wall of the ſpire at its baſe is about two feet in thickneſs; but leſſens as it aſcends till it is only ſeven inches thick at the top.

The whole building of the cathedral is encompaſſed by fine parapet walls. And to form ſome idea of the nature and conſtruction of the roofs, we are aſſured, that in the year 1737, according to a moderate computation of it then laid before the lords of the Treaſury, it contained 2641 tons of oak.

Having now ſaid ſo much of the ſtructure of this fabric, it will be acceptable to our readers to have a ſummary repreſentation of its principal dimenſions, which are as follow.

Lengths *of the* Cathedral.

	FEET.
The extreme outſide from weſt to eaſt -	480
Ditto inſide - - -	452

From

	FEET.
From the extreme weſt to the centre of the tower	235
Ditto inſide - - -	217
From the centre of the tower to that of the eaſt croſs - - -	96

WIDTHS *of the* CATHEDRAL.

Extreme outſide of the grand croſs, ſouth to north - - -	232
Ditto inſide - - -	205
Extreme outſide of the eaſtern croſs -	172
Ditto inſide - - - -	145
Extreme of the weſt front - -	115
Ditto of the body, or three aiſles - -	102
Inſide ditto - - - - -	87½
Nave between pillar and pillar - -	34½
Side aiſles of ditto - - -	17½
Extreme of the tower from weſt to eaſt	51
Inſide ditto - - -	34
Extreme of the tower from north to ſouth	50
Inſide ditto - - -	33
Ditto of the ſpire from weſt to eaſt -	33
Ditto——————— from north to ſouth	33

HEIGHTS *of the* CATHEDRAL.

From the pavement to the extreme top	400*

* The extreme height has been uſually eſtimated at 410 feet, to aſcertain which ſome attempts have been made by the application of good quadrants; but we ſhall not decide upon this difference. St. Paul's cathedral at London is only 340 feet high; and that of ſaint Peter's at Rome is ſaid not to exceed 437½ feet.

From

	FEET.
From the pavement to the top of the cap ſtone, or ball - - - -	387
Ditto to the top of the parapet wall of the tower	207
Ditto to the extreme top of the weſt front	130
Ditto to the top of the higheſt roofing	115
Ditto to the top of the vaulted cieling of the nave	84
Ditto to the cieling of the aiſles - -	38

OUR limits will not permit us to detail the obſervations of ſir Chriſtopher Wren in 1668, of Mr. Naiſh in 1681, of Mr. Price in 1737, and laſtly of Mr. Wyatt in 1787, reſpecting the declination of the ſpire from the centre of the building. It will be abundantly ſatisfactory to ſay, that in the ſpace of about 120 years from the time of the obſervations of ſir Chriſtopher Wren to thoſe of Mr. Wyatt, no alteration has taken place in that reſpect; and that whatever ſmall deviations are found, they muſt have been produced at the time of the erection or very ſoon after, ſo that no apprehenſions whatever need be entertained for the ſafety of the ſpire on that account.

BUT we muſt not diſmiſs our obſervations on the building in general, without noticing the meaſure and dimenſions of the chapter houſe and cloiſter, contiguous to the fabric. The chapter-houſe is an octagon of an almoſt ſingular conſtruction, the roof of which is ſupported by one ſmall pillar ſurrounded with ſlender ſhafts, from whence ſpring the groins of the cieling; and the walls and mullions are decorated with a vaſt number of delicate ſhafts, under which are niches that correſpond to the ſtalls of the choir.

choir. The heads of theſe are ſupported by ſmall cluſtered columns, and their capitals are finiſhed in a ſtyle of perfection; over which a great part of the old teſtament is repreſented in ſtone. It is paved with Roman tiles, that are ſaid to have been brought from the cathedral of Old Sarum. Its dimenſions are theſe.

	FEET.
From out to out of the walls, in diameter	78
Ditto inſide - - - - -	58
Height to the vaulted cieling - -	52

In like manner, the cloiſter is very ſpacious, and an object of much admiration; and is ſaid to be a ſpecimen of gothic architecture in its ſimple purity. This is

	FEET.
From out to out of the walls - -	195
Incloſed area - - - - -	140
Clear width to walk in - - -	18

The particular improvements lately made in the choir of this cathedral, are now the ſubject to which our attention muſt be directed. The alterations which had been made in the laſt century, after the reſtoration of king Charles, were in the ſtyle of the Grecian architecture, and very inconſiſtent with the

gothic conſtruction of the fabric. This was but too much the prevalent cuſtom in making improvements in other gothic ſtructures; but it was a falſe taſte, and has happily been done away by the late judicious changes of Mr. Wyatt, from 1789 to 1792, during which period the cathedral was ſhut up for that purpoſe, who has reſtored the architecture of the times of the original foundation. Something had been done to that purpoſe in the year 1777, when it was determined to withdraw the pulpit from the nave, whither all the congregation had been accuſtomed to remove, after the concluſion of the prayers in the choir; and was not only a matter of extreme inconvenience, but the great nave, by means of the ſeats on each ſide of it, was thereby rendered very unſightly. Since that period the whole of the ſervice has been performed in the choir.

Of the organ ſcreen, the organ caſe, the biſhop's throne, the pulpit, and the canopies of the prebendal ſtalls, and, of the laſt, particularly thoſe of the dean and precentor, it is ſufficient to ſay, that they are in the higheſt ſtyle of gothic architecture; and the biſhop's throne is ſuppoſed to be the very firſt piece of work of the kind, and unequalled for richneſs of ſtyle and correctneſs of deſign.

By Mr. Wyatt's judicious arrangements, the entrance to the choir is awfully ſtriking. The windows at the eaſt end are all of painted glaſs; the ſubjects are, the elevation of the brazen ſerpent, and the reſurrection. The former was a gift of the preſent earl of Radnor in 1781, deſigned by the late ingenious

nious Mr. Mortimer, and executed by Mr. Pearſon; it is compriſed in three compartments, and conſiſts of twenty-one figures, all of which are admirably executed: its dimenſions are twenty-one feet in height, by ſeventeen feet ſix inches in width. In this window the diviſions of the glaſs are concealed by being in the dark ſhades of the draperies and figures, and a frame of iron, to which it is faſtened by bandages of lead, is ſo conſtructed as to be hid from the view by correſponding to the different ſhades. The other, the ſubject of which is the reſurrection, was deſigned by ſir Joſhua Reynolds, and executed by Mr. Egington, near Birmingham, whoſe great abilities are univerſally admired: the window is twenty-three feet in height, and is compriſed in three compartments; it principally conſiſts of one figure, which is a full length of our Saviour juſt ariſen from the tomb, from which a light or glory proceeds, and diffuſes itſelf throughout the whole, diſperſing the darkneſs of the night: in the left compartment is a diſtant view of Mount Calvary and the croſſes. The windows on each ſide this are painted in moſaic, and thoſe on the north and ſouth ſides of what was the Lady's chapel are ornamented with the ſame elegant work: theſe, together with the range of columns within, and the vaulting above, form, perhaps, one of the grandeſt perſpectives in architecture to be conceived, and cannot fail of producing the moſt ſolemn effect.

THIS part of the church was originally dedicated to the Virgin, and called ſaint Mary's chapel; it

was

was uſed for early prayers, and crowded with ſeats, by which its beauties were in a great meaſure concealed: the removal of theſe, together with the ſcreen, opens this end to the choir, and forms the preſent chancel; the vaultings over this part being much lower and richer than thoſe in the grand aiſle, and the number of cluſtered columns being raiſed on a marble floor differently paved from the reſt of the choir, form a ſpace which ſeems appropriated ſolely for the uſe of the altar. The improvements made here are very conſiderable; the windows are reſtored to their original level, under which gothic niches are formed, which is agreeable to what originally was in the chancels of moſt cathedrals, and was formerly on each ſide of the altar of this church: the original work of this kind in Litchfield cathedral ſtill remains; and whatever the uſe of them might have been, they were equal in number to the prebendal ſtalls in the choir.

THE altar-piece conſiſts of five niches of curious workmanſhip, three of which are immediately over the communion-table, and one on each ſide. The communion-table is of ſtone, and in the ſame ſtyle with the whole of the altar-piece; it is compoſed of the parts that remained of an old altar-piece that was diſcovered on the removal of that of the Lady's chapel, at the commencement of the late improvements. The parts alluded to ſupported a range of gothic niches of curious workmanſhip, greatly defaced, and in point of finiſhing were not unlike

thoſe lately diſcovered at the chapel of New College, Oxford; the grand niche on each ſide of the table was formed out of ornaments taken from the entrances to the Beauchamp and Hungerford chapels; the arms of the reſpective families remain on their tops in their original form, and the painted window of the reſurrection connects itſelf with the whole. Nothing can convey a juſter idea of the architect's (Mr. Wyatt) great judgment and abilities than the arrangement of the different ornaments he has ſelected from the chapels removed, of which the whole of this end is chiefly compoſed; and their application ſeems very ſuitable to their different ſituations. The pavement is black and white marble, and the amazing lightneſs of the columns that ſupport the roof is ſcarcely to be conceived; the four principal ones, not meaſuring more than nine or ten inches diameter, are near thirty feet high; the cluſtered ones are ſtill more delicately light, and are now entirely detached from any incumbrances. Here the perſpective of the whole building cannot fail of ſtriking the eye with admiration; a view of the vaulting of the nave being preſerved over the organ, the choir front of which, together with the canopies to the ſtalls, have their full effect from hence.

THE organ is alſo a beautiful termination of the choir, and from the elegance of its deſign, (correſponding as it does with the building,) produces a grand effect; it was a preſent of his Majeſty, and

will

will (with many others) be a laſting monument of his great munificence.

Of the motive and occaſion on which his Majeſty was induced to beſtow this beautiful preſent, the following account has been generally conſidered as a correct ſtatement. It deſerves to be recorded in our work, to point out the very gracious manner in which this great inſtance of liberality was conferred. In a private converſation of the King with the preſent biſhop of Durham, at that time biſhop of Saliſbury, concerning the propoſed improvements in the cathedral, and the means of defraying the great expence of ſuch a comprehenſive work; it was ſtated by the biſhop, after he had enumerated the particulars, that an organ was very much wanted to complete the plan, but that the reſources, which conſiſted ſolely of the voluntary contributions of the gentlemen of the dioceſe, would, he feared, be inadequate to the purpoſe. On which his Majeſty, with a promptitude and facility which enhanced the bounty, graciouſly replied, "I deſire you will accept of a new organ for your cathedral, being my contribution as a Berkſhire gentleman."

In purſuance of this promiſe, an inſtrument, ſuppoſed to be one of the firſt in Europe, was ordered to be built by the celebrated Mr. Green, of Iſleworth, who had before built one for Windſor, and for the cathedrals of Canterbury, Litchfield, and other places; and when it was erected, the following elegant inſcription in capitals was placed on the weſt front of it.

MUNIFICENTIA
GEORGII TERTII,
PRINCIPIS
CLEMENTISSIMI PIENTISSIMI OPTIMI,
PATRIS PATRIÆ
ET
HUJUSCE DIÆCESEOS
INCOLÆ AUGUSTISSIMI.

Which may be thus tranſlated, "The liberal donation of George the third, the moſt mild and pious, and the beſt prince, the father of his country, and the moſt renowned inhabitant of this dioceſe."

CHAP. IV.

Of the MONUMENTS *and other* ANTIQUITIES *of this* CATHEDRAL.

IT cannot be expected that we ſhould here notice every individual monument that may be found in this cathedral; for it will be found fully ſufficient to mention ſuch only as are remarkable for their ſculpture, or elegance of inſcription.

COMING in, therefore, at the weſt door, we are preſented with the monument of doctor Aubigny Turberville and Anne his wife, with an elegant Latin inſcription, towards the north ſide in the body of

of the church. He lived to the age of 85, and ſhe died in her 80th year. There is alſo an ancient tomb, on the baſe between the pillars, which is ſuppoſed to have been brought from Old Sarum.

To the eaſtward, a little farther from hence, under an iron grating, is the figure of a choral or boy biſhop. It was removed to this ſituation about the year 1680, after it had long remained in obſcurity under the ſeats near the pulpit. The diſcovery of this ſtone monument, which repreſents a little boy habited in epiſcopal robes, with a mitre on his head and a croſier in his hand, gave occaſion for much conjecture; but Mr. Gregory, prebendary of Winterbourn-Earles, after a great deal of trouble in ſearching old ſtatutes and manuſcripts, found that the children of the choir anciently elected a choriſter biſhop on ſaint Nicholas's day; from that to Innocent's day, he was dreſſed in pontifical robes; his fellows were prebendaries, and they performed every ſervice, except the maſs, which the real biſhop, dean, and prebendaries uſually did. They made proceſſions, ſung part of the maſs, and ſo careful was the church, that no interruption nor preſs ſhould incommode them, that by a ſtatute of Sarum, it was pronounced excommunication for any to do ſo.

If the choral biſhop, continues Gregory, died within the month, his exequies were ſolemnized with an anſwerable pomp and ſadneſs; he was buried, as all other biſhops, in his ornaments. Mr. Gregory farther obſerves from Molanus, that the choral biſhop received rents, capons, and ſuch other annual dona-

tions, and in the church of Cambray even diſpoſed of a prebend; and moreover, by the ſtatute of Sarum, held viſitations, and had ſome other prerogatives.

At his feet is a monſter, ſuppoſed to be a dragon, being part, perhaps, of his family arms: or, as others imagine, it refers to the words of the pſalmiſt, "Thou ſhalt tread on the lion and dragon," meaning the ſaints.

The curious reader will, we doubt not, be amuſed with the following account of this ſtrange ceremony, taken from Mr. Warton's hiſtory of Engliſh poetry, vol. i, p. 248: "In all the collegiate churches of France, as well as England, it was cuſtomary to celebrate the feaſt of the boy-biſhop. In the ſtatutes of the archiepiſcopal cathedral of Tulles, given in the year 1497, it is ſaid that during the celebration of the feſtival of the boy-biſhop, moralities were preſented, and ſhews of miracles, with farces and other ſports, but compatible with decorum. After dinner they exhibited without their maſks, but in proper dreſſes, ſuch farces as they were maſters of, in different parts of the city. It is probable that the ſame entertainments attended the ſolemnization of this ridiculous feſtival in England; and from this ſuppoſition ſome critics may be inclined to deduce the practice of our plays being acted by the choir-boys of ſaint Paul's church, and the chapel-royal, which continued till Cromwell's uſurpation." In the ſtatutes of Eton college, given 1441, the epiſcopus puerorum, or boy-biſhop, is ordered to perform

perform divine ſervice on St. Nicholas's day. *Rubr.* xxxi.—In the ſtatutes of Wincheſter college, given 1380, pueri (that is the boy-biſhop and his fellows) are permitted on Innocent's day to execute all the ſacred offices in the chapel, according to the uſe of the church of Sarum. *Rubr.* xxix.—This ſtrange piece of religious mockery flouriſhed greatly in Saliſbury cathedral. In the old ſtatutes of this church there is a chapter de epiſcopo choriſtarum, of the choriſter-biſhop, and their proceſſionale gives a long and minute account of the whole ceremony. Edit. *Rotham.* 1555.—This ceremony was aboliſhed by a proclamation no later than 33 Henry VIII.—In the inventory of the treaſury of York cathedral, taken 1530, we have "Item una mitra parva cum petris pro epiſcopo puerorum," &c. alſo one ſmall mitre with ſtones for the boy-biſhop, &c. This account may be ſeen at large in Dugdale's Monaſticon Anglicanum, fol. 169, 170, of vol. 3.

PROCEEDING from this digreſſion, an effigy of grey marble is at the feet of the boy-biſhop, clad in armour, croſs legged, and in the habit of a knight templar. It is ſuppoſed that this was the repreſentation to the memory of William Longſpee, eldeſt ſon of the earl of Saliſbury ſo called, who was ſlain in the holy wars, at the retaking of Damieta in 1249. There are two tombs, both of which are unknown, beyond this.

THE tomb of John Montacute, earl of Sarum, is a little beyond theſe; and contiguous to it is the tomb of Oſmund, who founded the cathedral church

of Old Sarum, and died in 1099, whoſe remains were removed hither in 1226. The monument of lord Stourton has alſo been removed hither to a ſituation nearly oppoſite from the eaſt end of the church, of whoſe execution for the murder of Mr. Hartgill and his ſon we have already given an account. The monument of Walter de la Wyle, with his effigies in his pontifical robes, appears on the ſame ſide, and was removed from the north aiſle of the grand tranſept. He died in 1271.

THE tombs of the Hungerfords are not far from theſe, over which formerly was the iron chapel, removed in 1778 to the upper end of the choir by the earl of Radnor. On a braſs plate affixed to the tombs is an inſcription to their memory. The effigies of lord Cheney is a little farther, which was removed, together with his remains, from Beauchamp chapel.

A MARBLE monument to the memory of doctor Stephens, late organiſt of this cathedral, is on the north wall of the ſide aiſle of the nave; and another, not far from it, to the memory of Mrs. Margaret Aſhley. There is alſo a handſome marble tablet to the memory of the anceſtors of the preſent lord Malmſbury, which he has lately cauſed to be erected, as the inſcriptions on their grave ſtones in this tranſept have been nearly eraſed. The monument of biſhop Blyth, who died in 1499, is againſt the north wall of this tranſept or principal croſs aiſle. On the north ſide of the choir, near the iron railing, and partly within the aiſle of the grand tranſept, is the

monument

monument of biſhop Mitford. Not far from it, a little farther on, under the ſeats of the choir, is the figure of a perſon who is ſaid to have periſhed in an attempt to follow literally the example of our Saviour's preternatural faſt of forty days and forty nights. His name is ſuppoſed to have been Fox, who appears like a ſkeleton. The monument of doctor Thomas Bennet is contiguous to this; of whom there is a traditionary account that he was employed in the tranſlation of the bible, and that he made an oath that he would finiſh it before he ſhould either eat or drink. It has been ſaid that he died of hunger and fatigue, juſt as he was finiſhing the laſt page. But there muſt be ſome miſtake in this tradition; for beſides the extreme improbability of the ſtory, we know that the tranſlation was committed to the care of ſeveral perſons, who took their reſpective portions. If, therefore, there is any foundation for the tradition, we can only conjecture, that probably he might have been tardy in executing his part, and perhaps blamed by ſome others for his delay; and that in conſequence of the charge of a want of zeal, he might thus raſhly engage himſelf in a dangerous experiment, as a means of exculpating himſelf in the minds of his colleagues. He is ſaid to have died in 1555.

Of the eaſtern croſs aiſle it may be obſerved, that the north ſide has been converted into a chapel for early prayers, and for performing the offices of baptiſm and marriage; in which, near the font, or baptiſtery, is the monument of biſhop Poore, the founder

der of this cathedral, and which, together with his remains, were removed from the north wall of the former altar. There are alſo three grave ſtones in this chapel, of biſhops Wyvill, Gheaſt, and Jewell, which were removed from the choir when it was paved with marble in 1684. Biſhop Bingham's tomb and monument are alſo under an arch in the wall of the choir.

We may next take notice of the ſmall handſome gothic chapel of biſhop Audley; and oppoſite to it, on the north wall, the neat monument in memory of James earl of Caſtlehaven. From theſe is the entrance into the choir, of which we have already treated in the preceding chapter.

Turning towards the eaſt end of the church, the tomb of biſhop Mortival preſents itſelf under an arch. Near unto this the monument of ſir Thomas Gorges and his lady are placed and erected, at the expence of Edward Gorges, lord of Dundalk in Ireland, to the memory of his parents; which is of Purbeck marble, and finely executed. Of the altar, with the carved work in this part of the choir, together with the roof and the nature of the delicate pillars that ſupport it, we deſpair of expreſſing ourſelves in a manner any way adequate to the merits of the architect; it ſhall ſuffice to ſay, that they attract and command the moſt intereſting attention and admiration of all beholders.

In paſſing to the upper end of the ſouth aiſle, and contiguous nearly to the chancel, the moſt ſuperb monument of the earl of Hertford, the eldeſt ſon of

Edward duke of Somerſet, uncle to and regent in the time of king Edward the ſixth, with his lady and two ſons, is very conſpicuous. This conſiſts of various ſpecies of marble, and has ſeveral effigies which are finely executed. It has lately been repaired and beautified at much expence by the duke of Northumberland. The following is a tranſlation of the Latin inſcription on this monument:—

" SACRED to the memory of Edward, earl of Hertford, baron Beauchamp, ſon and heir of the moſt illuſtrious nobleman Edward duke of Somerſet, earl of Hertford (viſcompt Beauchamp, baron of Saintmaur, knight companion of the moſt noble order of the Garter, uncle to king Edward VI. regent and a worthy protector of his realms, dominions, and ſubjects, generaliſſimo of his majeſty's forces, lord lieutenant and earl marſhal of England, governor and captain of the iſlands of Guernſey and Jerſey), by Anne his wife, deſcended from a very ancient and illuſtrious family.

" As alſo to the memory of his moſt dear and beloved wife Catharine, daughter and heir of Henry and Frances Grey, duke and ducheſs of Suffolk (daughter and heir to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, by Mary, ſiſter to king Henry VIII. queen dowager of France), and great grand-daughter to king Henry VII. (a marriage equally honourable on both ſides) who after having experienced the viciſſitudes of fortune, together reſt in the ſame peace wherein they lived. This great and illuſtrious lady

deceaſed

deceaſed on the 22d of January, 1563, leaving a ſingular example of virtue, piety, beauty, and conſtancy.

" He preſerved unſullied the nobility deſcended to him, was a man of the ſtricteſt honour, famous for his eloquence, prudence, innocence, and ſtrictneſs of life; and not leſs famous for his virtues and accompliſhments, than for the luſtre of his high birth, having received his education with prince Edward, ſon to king Henry; and having been employed in an embaſſy of conſequence by James, king of Great Britain, to the arch duke and ducheſs, he acquitted himſelf of the truſt with the greateſt fidelity and honour. His munificence rendered him illuſtrious at home and abroad, and though his fortune was great, he was far richer in the endowments of his mind. And having never availed himſelf of his power to oppreſs thoſe who were dependant on him, full of honours, as of years, he yielded to nature on the 6th of April, 1621, in the 83d year of his age."

There is a tomb not far from it, which is ſuppoſed to have contained the remains of biſhop Wikhampton, who died in 1284; but it is perhaps with more probability to be aſſigned to doctor Wilton, who was archdeacon here in 1433, as the letters Wil on the left ſide of the tomb, and the Ton carved on the right hand as a pun upon his name, afford ſtrong grounds of conjecture. The monuments of doctor John Priaulx, ſometime archdeacon of Sarum, and of archdeacon Rolleſton, who died here in 1766, are not far from the above.

On the oppoſite ſide, and almoſt facing the choir, is the chapel which was removed from the nave in 1778, and erected by Walter, lord Hungerford, in 1429; it is moſtly of iron, and was called Hungerford, but now lord Radnor's chapel. The ſituation to which it is removed correſponds with that of Audley chapel on the oppoſite ſide; and it has been much beautified and adorned with various coats of arms and inſignia of antiquity under the orders of the earl of Radnor, by Edmondſon, the famous herald. The tomb and monument of biſhop York are near this; and a ſmall monument, with another to the memory of biſhop Ayſcough, who was murdered in 1450 at the inſurrection of Jack Cade, are nearly oppoſite.

We now come to the ſouth wall of the eaſtern tranſept or croſs aiſle, where there is a monument to the memory of Mrs. Margaret Townſend, and near it an elegant one for doctor John Clarke, dean of Sarum. Mr. Edward Davenant, brother of biſhop Davenant, has alſo a monument to his memory on the right hand; and near it, on the weſt wall, is one in memory of biſhop Ward, whoſe name will be ever revered for building and endowing the college called after his name, for the reception and maintenance of ten clergymen's widows. Doctor Noel's monument, late dean of Sarum, is placed near the entrance into the choir.

Under the ſeats of the choir on the left hand, is the tomb of biſhop Capon, who died in 1557; and oppoſite to it the monument of biſhop Davenant.

The latter is of marble, and ſupported by two corinthian pillars; and near it is the monument to the memory of ſir Richard Mompeſſon, knight, and dame Catherine his wife, with their effigies. Biſhop Bridport's effigy and tomb, who put the finiſhing hand to the cathedral, is contiguous to the laſt.

At the ſouth end of the grand aiſle are the monuments of biſhops Hume and Thomas, near the entrance into the cloiſters; and on the left hand, in returning from thence, is a ſmall monument to the memory of Urſula Sadler. That of Miles Sandys is near to it; and another for Robert Hayes, youngeſt brother to James, earl of Carliſle.

The effigy of William Longſpee, or Longſword, earl of Saliſbury, will be ſeen to the left as you approach the centre of the tower; and oppoſite to it, on the ſouth wall, is the monument of the widow Sadler. The monument of lord chief juſtice Hyde, on which is ſeen his buſto in marble, is on the ſame wall, with ſeveral more of his family near it.

The monuments of Mrs. Mary Cook, of doctor Stebbing, archdeacon of Wilts and chancellor of Sarum, and of Mr. Joſeph Gribble, the under maſter of the grammar ſchool, appear on the ſame ſide; this laſt was erected, as a teſtimony of reſpect to his memory, by the contribution of the young gentlemen of the ſchool. Biſhop Beauchamp's tomb is oppoſite to this, and was removed, with his remains, from the chapel he had founded, which was taken down at the late alterations. Doctor Hele and doctor Ballantyne's monuments are againſt the ſouth

wall;

wall; and on the raiſed pavement is a tomb unknown. Farther to the weſt is the effigy of biſhop Roger, which was brought from the cathedral of Old Sarum; and at his head is a tomb with the figure of a biſhop in his robes, a croſier piercing a dragon, and a rude border of birds and foliage round him, and ſuppoſed to belong to biſhop Joceline, who was alſo removed hither from the old cathedral. A very old tomb is ſtill nearer to the weſt end, ſuppoſed to contain the bones of biſhop Herman, which is plain and in the form of a coffin, and removed hither alſo from the church of the old city. The elegant monument of Thomas, Lord Wyndham, is contiguous to this, having the figure of Hibernia on the top, in a poſture of grief and ſorrow.

CHAP. V.

Of a few Matters worthy of Obſervation in and near the City of SALISBURY.

WE ſhall not trouble our readers with a recital of the various ſubjects of an hiſtorical nature relative to the city of Saliſbury, ſince it can be of little import to the ſtranger or traveller to enlarge upon the number of churches, hoſpitals, charities, legacies, or other particulars reſpecting the city in general. It is our province to afford information to thoſe who

may

may be desirous only of visiting the grander productions of art and ingenuity. However, we may be allowed to observe, that the parish church of saint Edmund's, at the north angle of the city, for neatness, conveniency, and construction, far exceeds the other parish churches of saint Thomas and saint Martin; the former of which, strictly speaking, is no more than a chapel of ease to the cathedral. The new council house also is an august building, wherein the business of the corporation is transacted, and the courts of sessions and assizes are held. Few persons will, therefore, visit Salisbury in future, without having a wish and desire to see it. The inscription over the north entrance purports that it has been erected by the munificence of the earl of Radnor, recorder of the city.

Nor should we omit to notice the Close, which was formerly surrounded with a wall, and is the residence of the bishop, dean, canons, and the several attendants on the cathedral. But what most considerably attracts attention is the Bishop's Palace, than which very few buildings have undergone a greater change, without an entire demolition. From being a most inconvenient cheerless house, it is become one of the most convenient and cheerful.

By a manuscript in the possession of the late Thomas Rawlinson, it appears that, in the time of the civil wars, some of Cromwell's party sold the bishop's palace, with it's furniture, &c. to William and Thomas Baxter, for the sum of 880l. 2s.; and the royalties of Sarum and certain other lands, to

the

the mayor and commonalty of New Sarum, for 359ol. 7s. 8d.

THE MATRONS' COLLEGE was erected by biſhop Ward, and endowed by him with 200l. per annum, for the reception and maintenance of ten clergymen's widows of the eſtabliſhed church. It ſtands near the entrance into the Cloſe from the High-ſtreet; is a fair, ſtrong, regular building, and very commodious, having convenient gardens annexed to it.

OVER the gate, in gold characters, is a Latin inſcription, of which the following is a tranſlation,— "This College of Matrons Seth Biſhop of Sarum hath moſt humbly dedicated to the moſt high God, in the year of our Lord, 1682."

CHAP. VI.

Of PLACES *meriting the Notice of Strangers in the Vicinity of* SALISBURY.

THE firſt object which uſually attracts the notice of ſtrangers, after viſiting Saliſbury, is an excurſion to STONEHENGE, a diſtinguiſhed remain of antiquity, about eight miles to the north-weſt, a little verging from the road between Saliſbury and Devizes, towards the north-eaſt. A ſolitary public houſe on the ſouth-weſt ſide of the road, diſtinguiſhed by the name of the Druid's Head Inn, near the ſix mile ſtone, is the beſt mark for turning off for this re-

markable place; and the track of a wheel from thence will be a good guide. A great number of barrows are obſerved in the intervening ſpace; of which ſome are raiſed ſix or ſeven feet above the level of the ground, and all are compoſed of a quantity of earth, and ſuppoſed to be the burying places of Britiſh and Roman families. Though theſe barrows are found on every ſide of Stonehenge, they no way extend to any great diſtance from it. Many of them were opened, under the direction of doctor Stukely, by deſire of the then earl of Pembroke; in many of which were diſcovered the heads of deceaſed perſons, all of them placed towards the north. Burnt bones have been alſo found incloſed in unbaked urns, and ſeveral weapons in ſome of them. Thoſe that belonged to the Druids or the Britiſh, are ſuppoſed to be thoſe which only contained the bones of beaſts and fowls; and of theſe the greater part appeared to have been burnt.

BEING ſituated on an extenſive plain, at the approach to Stonehenge by the ſide of theſe barrows, their magnitude is greatly diminiſhed to the eye, and the appearance ſeldom correſponds with the idea that is uſually formed of this ſtupendous heap of ſtones before they are ſeen. Indeed the altitude of the higheſt of the ſtones does not exceed twenty feet, and many of them are no more than eighteen.

MANY perſons have wrote concerning Stonehenge; and amongſt others, the learned Camden, Gibbon, Inigo Jones, Sammes, and Webb; but doctor Stukely's account is now moſt generally approved,

who concludes that it was the principal temple of the Druids in England.—He expreſſes himſelf in the following emphatic language:—" The greatneſs of the contour, the dark parts of the ponderous impoſts over one's head, the chaſms of ſky between the jambs of the cell, the odd conſtruction of the whole, and the magnitude of every part, ſtrike you (ſays he) into an extatic reverie, which none can deſcribe, and they only can be ſenſible of that feel it." He tells us, that the original meaſure is a palm, and that this palm is the ſixth part of a meaſure of 10 feet 4 inches and 3 quarters; that " the founder's intention was to form a circle, whoſe diameter was to be ſixty cubits; accordingly, each ſtone was to be four cubits broad, and each interval two cubits. Now thirty times four cubits is twice ſixty, and thirty times two cubits is ſixty; ſo that thrice ſixty cubits completes a circle, whoſe diameter is ſixty cubits: thus a ſtone and an interval, in the outward circle, make three ſquares; two allotted to the ſtone, one to the interval. This general deſign may be ſeen in the ſeven ſtones now remaining at the grand entrance.

" The ſtones of the outward circle are four cubits broad, two thick, and nine high; on the top of every two of them are placed headſtones, as impoſts or cornices; theſe impoſts are ſix cubits long, two broad, and one and a half high; the uprights diminiſh a little every way, ſo as at the top to be but three cubits and a half broad, whereby the impoſts project over the uprights, both within and without. In its perfection, the outward circle conſiſted of ſixty

ſtones, viz. thirty uprights and thirty impoſts; of theſe ſeventeen uprights are left ſtanding, eleven contiguous to the grand entrance, and five impoſts upon them; another upright leans on a ſtone of the inner circle; there are ſix more lying on the ground, whole or in pieces; there is but one impoſt more in it's proper place, and but two more lying on the ground; ſo that twenty-two are carried away by rude and ſacrilegious hands.

"FIVE cubits inward there is another circle of leſſer ſtones. The ſtones of this circle are truly parallelograms; their proportion is two cubits broad, one thick, and four and a half high, and were forty in number: nineteen only are left, eleven of which ſtand in ſitu. The walk between theſe two circles is three hundred paces in circumference.

"HAVING paſſed the ſecond circle, you behold the cell, or aditum, which is an ellipſis: it is compoſed of trilithons, two uprights, and one impoſt; they are five in number, and ſtill remain. Each trilithon ſtands independent of its number; they alſo diminiſh to the top, which takes off from their weight. The tenons, or mortiſes, are particularly formed, being about ten inches and a half diameter, and reſembling half an egg rather than an hemiſphere, and ſo effectually keep both uprights and impoſts from luxation.

"THE whole number of ſtones is thus computed: the great oval conſiſted of ten uprights; the inner, with the altar, of forty: theſe, with five impoſts of the great oval, thirty of the great circle, and ſome more

more broken and ſcattered, completed the temple, making in all one hundred and forty ſtones."

ABOUT half a mile to the north of Stonehenge, after croſſing the valley, is what doctor Stukely called an hippodrome, or horſe courſe. It is included between two ditches running parallel eaſt and weſt, at the diſtance of 350 feet, and the courſe is 10,000 feet long.

FROM hence it is about a mile and a half to AMESBURY, which probably derives its name from its vicinity to Stonehenge, or Main Ambres, denoting anointed or conſecrated ſtones.

THE ſeat of the late duke of Queenſbery, now called Ameſbury Houſe, is formed on the ſcite of the old monaſtry. The celebrated Inigo Jones was the architect and deſigner of this noble manſion, and his ſcholar Webb was continued to ſuperintend the execution. The river Avon flows pleaſantly through the gardens, and gives an enlivening variety to the place and ſituation. A bridge, with a delightful room, in the Chineſe manner, is built over the river. The houſe was lately occupied by ſir Elijah Impey; but is now inhabited by a large body of nuns from the continent, formerly reſiding in Auſtrian Flanders.

BEFORE we take a tour to the weſtward, it may not be improper to take notice of two places to the eaſtward of the city of Saliſbury, where the curious ſtranger is ſuppoſed to be after viſiting the remains of Stonehenge. Of theſe, the firſt which we ſhall mention is CLARENDON PALACE, about three miles

due eaſt, or nearly ſo, from the city. It is a place noted in antiquity and hiſtory, but now preſents no more ſpecimens of its former grandeur than a few flinty walls and large heaps of rubbiſh. It was a famous reſidence of ſeveral of our ancient kings; and it was from this palace, that king Henry the third with his court, as we have already intimated, came to the city of Saliſbury in the year 1258, to be preſent at the dedication of the new cathedral. The royal chapel of Clarendon was ſupplied by the canons from the monaſtry of Ivy Church, near the ſouth-weſt angle of Clarendon Park, which were four in number with a prior; they had penſions from this king for their ſervice.

We learn from hiſtory that a parliament was afterwards ſummoned to meet here by king Edward the ſecond, in 1317; but the diſputes at that time run very violently between the king and the barons, and very little buſineſs of importance was tranſacted. This place was alſo honoured with the reſidence of king Edward the third in 1357, at a time when the plague was making great ravages in London and many other principal towns of the kingdom. He was accompanied by John, king of France, and David, king of Scots, who were at that time his priſoners. The laſt remarkable occurrence of this palace is, that Roger de Clarendon, the natural ſon of Edward, the black prince, was born here; but it is highly probable that from this time it began to be neglected, and was conſequently ſuffered to fall into decay.

About

ABOUT a mile from the ruins of this palace ſtands Clarendon Houſe, the ſeat of general Bathurſt, in a very pleaſant ſituation, in the midſt of an extenſive park.

WE ſhall now return through Saliſbury, and proceed along the ſouth ſide of the Avon towards LONGFORD CASTLE, the ſeat of the right honourable the earl of Radnor, about three miles to the ſouth-eaſt from Saliſbury. This was formerly a place of conſiderable ſtrength, and the approach to it was by a draw-bridge over a deep moat ſupplied by an inlet from the river.

A MOST perfect piece of workmanſhip in ſteel is to be ſeen here, being a CHAIR which was executed at the city of Augſburg, and preſented to the emperor Rodolphus the ſecond, about two hundred years ſince: it contains the hiſtory of the Roman empire from it's riſe, after the deſtruction of Troy, through a long ſucceſſion of ages, in a great number of compartments in miniature, of wonderful accuracy and execution, the greater part of which are eaſily diſtinguiſhed by the claſſical ſpectator.

ONE of the rooms of this ſeat is hung entirely with tapeſtry, which, for excellence of workmanſhip, and beauty of the various colours it diſplays, is judged to be unrivalled." In a word, it may be truly ſaid, "take Longford Caſtle altogether, and it cannot but be admired by every perſon who has the good fortune to viſit it, either for curioſity or amuſement."

AT

AT the diſtance of nearly three miles weſt from Saliſbury, we come to the village of Fuggleſtone or Foulſtone, where an avenue to the left conducts to the lodge at the entrance towards WILTON-HOUSE, the noble manſion of the earl of Pembroke, and celebrated by every connoiſſeur in the polite arts throughout Europe. The houſe is erected on the ſcite of the nunnery at Wilton, and was firſt begun in the reign of king Henry the eighth, and the great quadrangle was completed in the time of king Edward the ſixth; but the hall ſide was burnt down in 1707, and has been rebuilt very ſumptuouſly. The garden front, which is 194 feet in length, is juſtly eſteemed one of the beſt pieces of architecture of Inigo Jones.

AFTER mentioning that the river Willy runs through the gardens, and forms a canal, with two handſome water falls before the houſe; we need not enlarge upon the fine ſtatues, buſtos, paintings, &c. at this noble ſeat, which are not only too numerous to be deſcribed here, but of which a particular account may be had at the manſion, in a deſcription that has been lately re-printed.

THE ancient borough town of Wilton is contiguous to the manſion, and was once ſo conſiderable as to give name to the county, being ſituated near the junction of the rivers Nadder and Willy. It is only noted for its manufacture of carpets, which is here brought to a great degree of perfection.

FARTHER to the weſt, near the vale of the Nadder, is FONTHILL-HOUSE, the ſeat of William Beckford,

Beckford, eſq. about fourteen miles diſtance from Saliſbury, and has been deemed an object of the firſt importance and attention by the curious. The houſe was burnt down about thirty years ago by an accidental fire, and totally conſumed in the ſpace of three hours; in which all the rich furniture was deſtroyed, with an organ of the value of five thouſand pounds. The whole loſs was eſtimated at thirty thouſand pounds, of which one-fifth of the value only was inſured. This manſion has been ſince re-built in a very elegant and faſhionable ſtyle; and the ſurrounding plantations are very beautiful, and the gardens are well laid out.

We may now direct our attention to Wardour Castle, which is about ſixteen miles from Saliſbury, the noble ſeat of lord Arundell, and recently built under the direction of Mr. Payne. Few manſions in the iſland of Great Britain are equal to it, either in point of grandeur or beauty of ſituation.

The entrance to it from the weſt has a noble and truly magnificent appearance, and the grounds have the aſpect of being ſwelled and diſpoſed to the greateſt advantage. The breadth of the central part of this caſtle is 115 feet, and each wing is 116 feet more, making together, with very little ſweep, an extent of 347 feet. A little to the right of the houſe, a fine view of the Old Castle of Wardour preſents itſelf on entering the ſhrubbery. From this ſituation the ſides and back appear to be cloſely ſurrounded with groves, erecting themſelves along the hill; and, after proceeding through a variety of windings,

which are elegantly formed, down the hill, the bottom of the vale is rurally picturesque. Advancing from hence to what has been named the Terrace, through the bosom of the wood, the beauties presented to the imagination are such as meet with universal admiration. The remains of this castle are about three quarters of a mile distant from the present mansion.

COME we next to STOURHEAD, the seat of sir Richard Colt Hoare, bart. at the distance of twenty-five miles west from Salisbury. The mansion house possesses an air of grandeur, though not large, and is well adapted both for pleasure and convenience; to which two handsome wings have been lately added. The hall is a perfect cube of thirty feet; and the length of the superb dining room is forty-five feet, and the breadth thirty feet, the height being the same as the hall. A very costly cabinet, highly meriting the notice of the curious, is here to be seen, which was formerly in the possession of pope Sixtus the fifth.

IN approaching the gardens from the village of Stourton, there opens at once to view a beautiful cross, which was transplanted thither from Bristol, called Peter's Pump, an elegantly winding river, with an airy bridge thrown across it, an obelisk raising its head above the trees, and the Pantheon, all agreeably scattered on the right, while the Temple of Apollo, and an inspiring grove that gently ascends to the summit of the hill, appear on the left. After passing along a winding road, through flowery meads of a variegated appearance, a prospect opens from

from an eminence, of woods and water, ſummer-houſes and pavilions, in a manner the moſt charmingly diverſified and pictureſque. Further on, at the ſummit of a wood, in which ſeveral cottages are interſperſed, the noted Tower of Alfred rears its awful form. The ſpot on which it ſtands is called the Terrace; it is a triangular brick building, 155 feet in height, and commands a moſt extenſive proſpect in every direction. The aſcent to the top is by a flight of ſteps to the number of 221; and, to give every opportunity for viewing it, a gallery has been ſecurely railed in round one of its turrets.

In proceeding to the wood juſt mentioned, after obtaining a diſtant view of the tower, a little monaſtry ſhews, on the left, its ſlender ſpires through the verdant foliage of the trees; and paſſing the vale, by a gentle aſcent through the boſom of a gloomy wood, formed for *midnight contemplation*, is the approach to a ruſtic pile, called the convent.

The following inſcription is ſeen over the portal of Alfred's Tower, on the outſide:—"Alfred the Great, A. D. 879, on this ſummit erected his ſtandard againſt Daniſh invaders, to whom we owe the origin of juries, and the creation of a naval force. Alfred, the light of a benighted age, was a philoſopher and a chriſtian, the father of his people, and the founder of the Engliſh monarchy and liberty."

This tour of the Terrace and Alfred's Vale, which makes a circuit of ſeven miles, ſhould by no means be neglected by ſtrangers. There are many ſtatues in the Pantheon; but a Ceres, in the beſt

taſte

taſte of antiquity, and a Hercules of modern times, executed by the wonderful ſculptor, Michael Ryſbrack, particularly demand attention. The pictureſque ſituation and effect of the ſmall Doric temple which peeps from the wood, and overhangs one part of the noble lake that has been formed in the vale, is ſtriking. The Temple of the Nymph, or the Grotto, is alſo juſtly eſteemed as one of the very firſt works of its kind, and has been conſtantly admired for the wonderful ſimplicity of its ſtructure and accompanyments. The figure of the Nymph is elegantly formed, and the water tinkling round her, with the gloom and ſtillneſs of the place, has a melancholy but pleaſing effect on the imagination. A river god is placed in another apartment, with a tranſparent wave pouring from his urn, which ſtrikes the eye on the firſt approach.

SUCH a variety and aſſemblage of the productions of nature and art, our limits will not ſuffer us to do juſtice to; and we muſt recommend to the curious ſtranger to viſit them, to form any tolerable idea of this ſituation.

BRITISH
11 OC 71
MUSEUM